

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 of CHELAN COUNTY

P.O. Box 1231, Wenatchee, WA 98807-1231 • 327 N. Wenatchee Ave., Wenatchee, WA 98801
(509) 663-8121 • Toll free 1-888-663-8121 • www.chelanpud.org

January 8, 2008

Mark Schuppe
Department of Ecology
15 West Yakima Ave -- Suite 200
Yakima, WA 98902-3452

Dear Mr. Schuppe:

Enclosed please find a Water Right Permit Application associated with the as yet to be constructed Auvil Fish Rearing Facility. Chelan County Public Utility District (District) plans to build a new juvenile rearing and adult holding facility at this location to accommodate up to 1.6 million juvenile summer Chinook and approximately 225 adult Wenatchee steelhead.

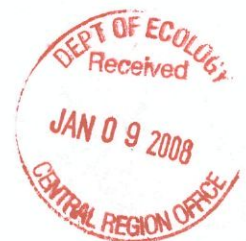
The District requests processing of this water right application through the Cost Reimbursement Process.

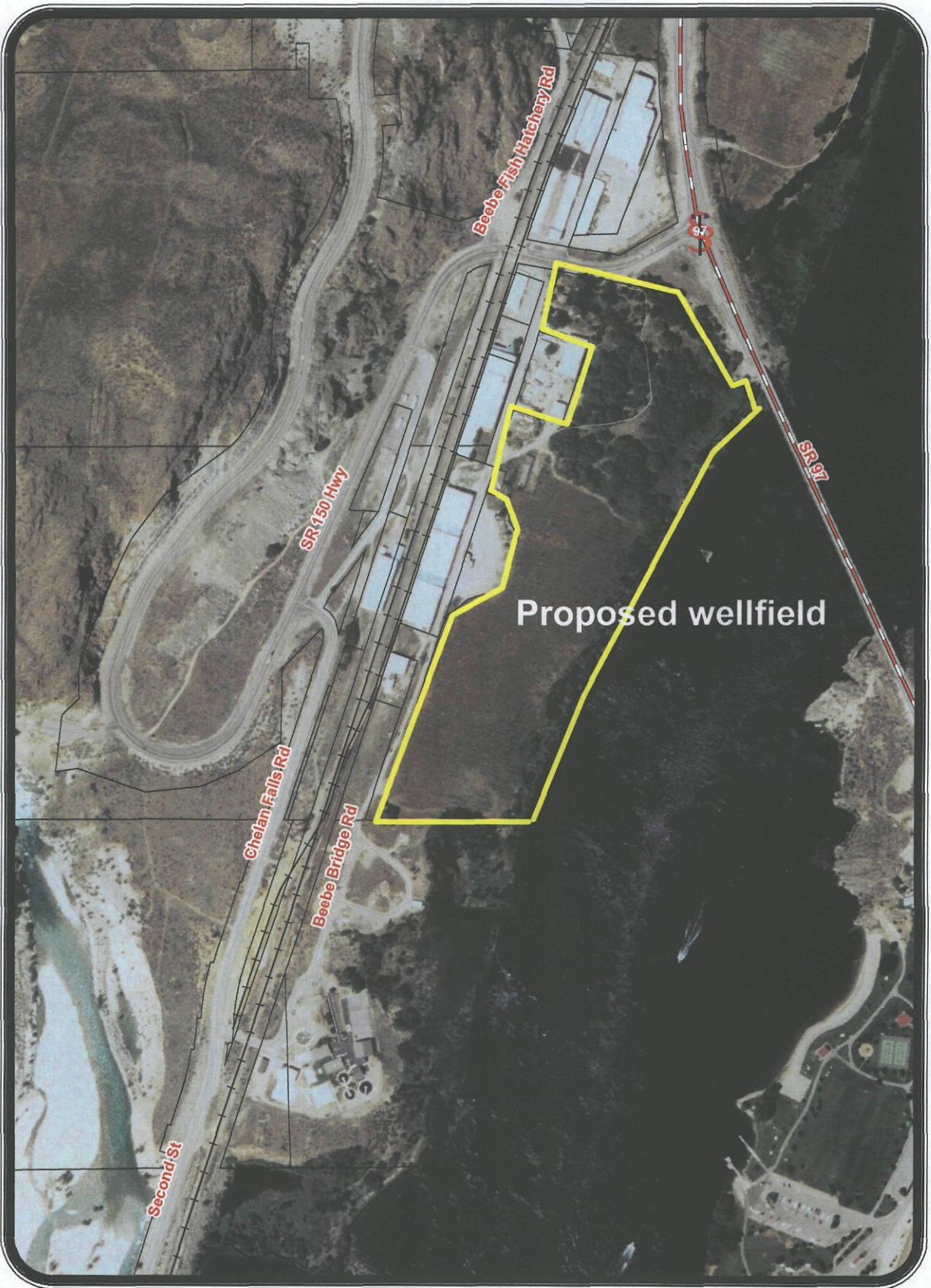
Also enclosed are the State Environmental Policy Act Checklist and Determination of Non-Significance for the water right application.

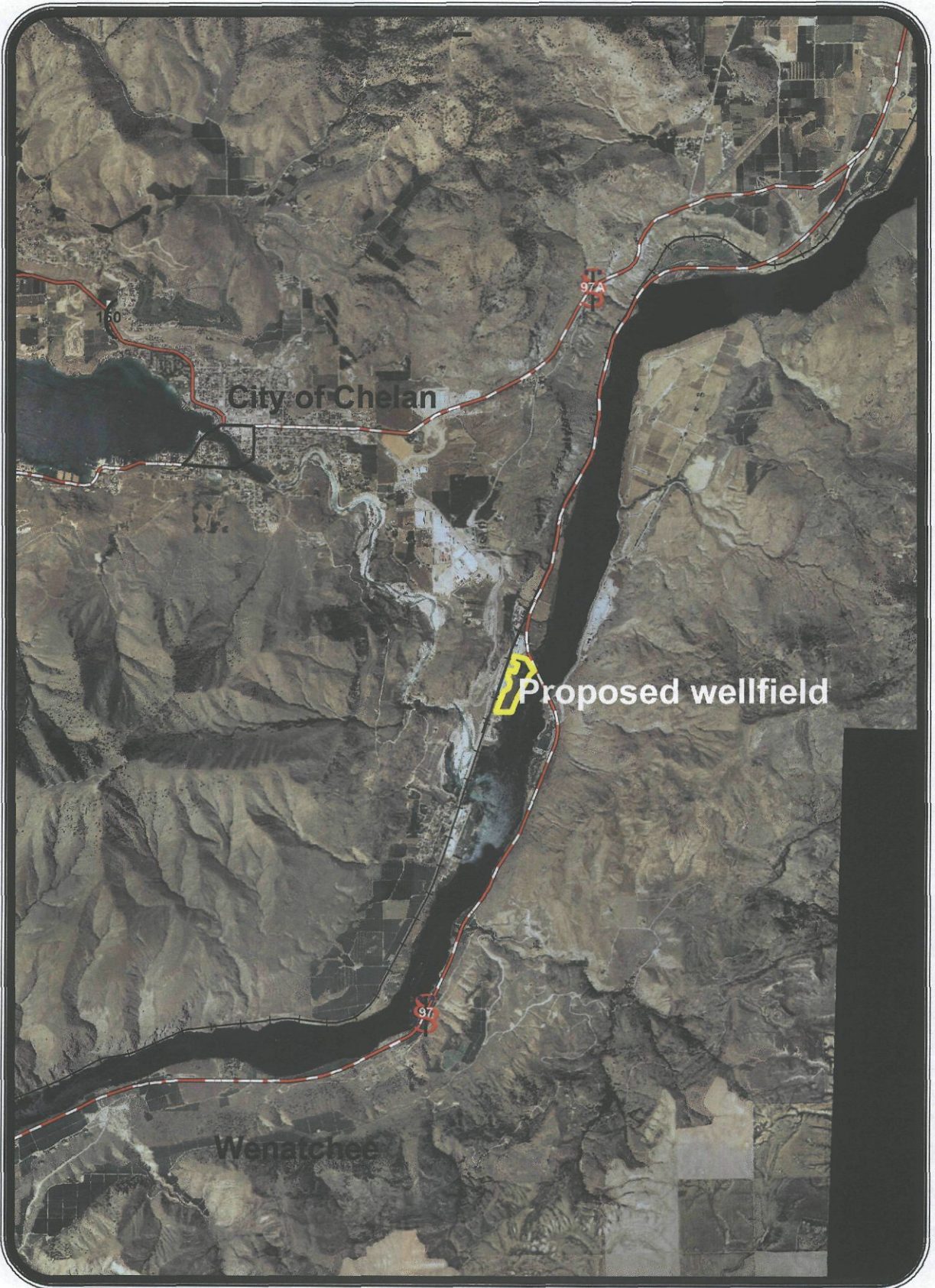
Sincerely,
Licensing and Natural Resource Compliance

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Waikele Hampton".

Waikele Hampton
Environmental Permit Coordinator







DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of Proposal: Auvil Fish Rearing Facility - New Water Right

Proponent: Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County

Location of proposal, including street address, if any: The proposed site is situated in the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 29, and the SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 20 Township 27, Range 23E, lying east of the Beebe Bridge Road and southwest of the Beebe Bridge on SR 97, as shown in Figure 2. Located in parcel# 272320523145.

Lead Agency: Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County

The Lead Agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this DNS.

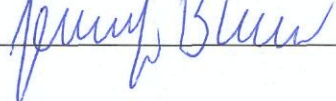
☒ This DNS is issued under 197-11-350(3); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 15 days from the date below.

Responsible Official: Jennifer Burns

Position / title: Environmental Coordinator

Address: P.O. Box 1231 Wenatchee, Washington 98807 1231

Date: January 14, 2008

Signature: 

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

New Water Right - Auvil Fish Rearing Facility

2. Name of applicant:

Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, Washington

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

*Waikele Hampton (509) 663-8121, Ext. 4627
P.O. Box 1231
Wenatchee, Washington 98807-1231*

4. Date checklist prepared:

January 3, 2008

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, Washington

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

2009

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

Yes. If allocated the requested water right and necessary construction permits (to be applied for separately), the District will construct a new fish rearing facility on this site.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

None

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

No

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

Water Right issued by the Washington State Department of Ecology.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

Background:

The District originally developed the current Turtle Rock Island and Eastbank rearing programs to mitigate for lost spawning areas in the mainstem Columbia River and to provide harvest opportunities for summer/fall Chinook. The District is proposing the development of the Auvil facility as a means of continuing the current programs while reducing the pressures on the Eastbank facility. In addition, it is the District's intent to find a source of water which more naturally mimics what the fish would experience in the wild.

Proposal:

The District plans to build a new juvenile rearing and adult holding facility at this location to accommodate up to 1.6 million juvenile summer Chinook, and approximately 225 adult Wenatchee steelhead.

The juvenile rearing program will consist of up to 3 stocks of summer Chinook:

600,000 Chelan Falls stock

576,000 Okanogan stock

400,000 Methow stock

Eyed eggs will be transferred to the site around March, and will be hatched and reared on site until outplanting in the fall for the Okanogan and Chelan Falls stocks and mid-February for the Methow stock.

The adult holding program will consist of a sufficient number of adult Wenatchee steelhead to provide progeny of 450,000 juveniles, approximately 225 adults.

In order to supply a consistent and reliable source of water to the new facility, the District proposes a new water right for 13,464 gallons per minute to be used year round. The flow rate is based on rearing standards established in the District's Habitat Conservation Plans. The District proposes the construction of a wellfield containing up to 15 wells on parcel # 272320523145 to meet the flow needs.

The District continues to evaluate the aquifer at this time. It is estimated that:

1. The system will consist of up to 15 wells drilled to bedrock from the surface until they reach a confining layer, expected to be approximately 200-300 feet deep.

2. The pumps will have a horsepower of up to 75HP and will range in size from 8" to 20" in diameter.

Water will be returned to the Columbia River at an as-yet-to-be-determined location on the parcel of the requested well field.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

The proposed site is situated in the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 29 and the SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 20, Township 27, Range 23E, lying east of the Beebe Bridge Road and southwest of the Beebe Bridge on SR 97, as shown in Figure 2. Located in parcel# 272320523145.

From Wenatchee, take Highway 2/97 east across the Odabashin Bridge. Follow 2/97 north approximately 34 miles. Just after crossing the Beebe Bridge, take a left on to SR 150 Hwy. After about .4 mile, take left onto the Chelan Falls Rd. Follow this approximately .32 miles and take a left onto Beebe Bridge Road. Follow this road that runs parallel to the railroad tracks for approximately 1/4 mile to the subject parcel.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site (check one): ☒ Flat, ☐ rolling, ☐ hilly, ☐ steep slopes, ☐ mountainous, other _____.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

flat

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, ☐ clay, ☐ sand, ☐ gravel, ☐ peat, ☐ muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

Pogue gravelly fine sandy loam

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

No

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

No filling or grading will be required to complete the proposed project.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Because no clearing or construction will occur, no erosion is anticipated.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

None

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

None

2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

No emissions will result from the proposal.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

No

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

None

3. Water

a. Surface:

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Yes, the Columbia River is adjacent to the parcel.

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

Production wells may be drilled within 200 feet of the OWH of the Columbia River. However, exact location of wells is not yet known at this time.

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

No fill or dredge material will be placed or removed from surface water or wetlands.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No. The proposal will not require any surface water withdrawals or diversions.

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

No

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

Water will be discharged from the rearing facility at an as yet to be determined location situated on the subject parcel. Fish pond waste water will be treated on site and will also be released at the same location.

b. Ground:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

Yes. If the application is approved, the District will withdraw groundwater from the parcel in the amount of up to 13,464 gallons per minute, not to exceed 21,677 acre feet per year.

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

N/A

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

None

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

No

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:

None

4. Plants

a. Check types of vegetation found on the site:

- ☒ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- ☒ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- ☒ shrubs
- ☒ grass
- ☐ pasture
- ☐ crop or grain
- ☐ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- ☐ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- ☐ other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

None

- c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

No threatened or endangered species are known to occur on site. However, Ute ladies'-tresses occurs approximately 1/2 mile north of the project site.

- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

None

5. Animals

- a. Check any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: ☐ hawk, ☒ heron, ☒ eagle, ☒ songbirds, other _____

mammals: ☒ deer, ☐ bear, ☐ elk, ☐ beaver, other _____

fish: ☒ bass, ☒ salmon, ☒ trout, ☐ herring, ☐ shellfish, other _____

- b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Upper Columbia River spring-run chinook (Onchorynchus tshawytscha)

Upper Columbia River steelhead (O. mykiss)

Bull trout (Salvelinus confluentus)

Bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus)

- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

Yes, Spring Chinook and steelhead use the Columbia River for migration to and from the ocean as juveniles and adults, respectively.

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

None

6. Energy and natural resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

Electrical will be used to run pumps to divert water to the rearing facility.

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

The proposal will not affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties.

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

None

7. Environmental health

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

The proposal will not result in an increase in environmental health hazards.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

No additional services will be required.

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

N/A

b. Noise

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

No noises in the area exist that will affect the proposed project.

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

No additional noise will be generated as a result of the proposal.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

N/A

8. Land and shoreline use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

The parcel of interest is currently unused. Adjacent properties are undeveloped or used as light industrial.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

Yes, the site was historically planted in orchard; however, the orchard has been removed for at least 5 years

c. Describe any structures on the site.

None

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

N/A

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

Rural Industrial

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

Other undeveloped land

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

Rural

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

None of the site has been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

Allocation of the water right in itself will not result in any people working or residing on the site.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

None

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

N/A

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

Adherence to permits and local, state, and federal land use regulations.

9. Housing

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

No units will be provided.

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

No units will be eliminated.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

N/A

10. Aesthetics

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

The proposed project will not result in any new structures on site.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

No view will be altered or obstructed.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

N/A

11. Light and glare

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

The project will produce no light or glare.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

N/A

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

N/A

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

N/A

12. Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

Boating, fishing, camping.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

The proposed project will not displace any existing recreational uses.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

N/A

13. Historic and cultural preservation

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

No. There are no places or objects included or proposed for inclusion on national, state, or local preservation registers.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

There are no known landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance on or next to the site.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

N/A

14. Transportation

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

The site is served by SR 97.

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

The site is not served by public transportation. The nearest public transportation is in Chelan, approximately 4.5 miles to the north west.

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

The proposal will not create nor eliminate any parking spaces.

d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

The proposal will not require any new roads or improvements.

e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

The completed project will generate no additional vehicular trips per day.

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

N/A

15. Public services

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

The project will not result in the increased need for public services.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

N/A

16. Utilities

a. Check utilities currently available at the site: ☒ electricity, ☐ natural gas, ☐ water, ☐ refuse service, ☐ telephone, ☐ sanitary sewer, ☐ septic system, other.

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

Utilities needed for the operation of the wells and the new fish rearing facility will be addressed in a separate SEPA for construction.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: Wade Hampton

Date Submitted: 8 Jan 08